

ISSUE #5 2021 | VOL.52

We are now back up and running at full capacity. This has been such a long journey for us over these past 15 months but we can finally now say that all of our different premises are open and functioning - we hope and pray that things will now stay this way.

Our latest Alpha course has been running for a few weeks now, we are also back up and running with our rugby sessions in partnership with the Cathedral and Gloucester Rugby. We have also just started hosting an art therapy course at Revive in partnership with the Cathedral Community Engagement Team.

We are now working on plans for getting restarted with Bible Study sessions in Newton House as well as looking for ways to run more sessions like this during the week.

With us starting lots of new projects it is a great time to invite new volunteers to come and join us. We are particularly looking for people to help sort out donations and do some prep and tidying work in the Outreach kitchen, if you have some time during the week and would like to find a way to get involved in helping us please contact elaine@gloscitymission.org.uk

Numbers for our Wednesday lunches are increasing now as we start to get back to full normality which is great because it is a key time in the week when we get to have conversations and catch-ups with people who we don't see on outreach. Our rugby and football sessions have also restarted.

Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Kevin Howie, GCM General Manager

Revive is open again with lots of exciting new changes including tea cakes, scones, rolls, speciality coffee and fruit smoothies!!!





We were saddened to hear the sad news about the loss of Ruth Whitford. She was a fantastic supporter of GCM in its early days (and then for about 12 years.) She was a true blessing and literally sold up everything when she lived in Guernsey and felt God calling her to come and help Mike Curtis here in Gloucester. She supported us for many years and continued offering financial support when she moved back to Guernsey last year.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.

Out Reach Stories - Tony Hipkins

On outreach one day, a couple of years ago now, we met a group of street drinkers. We got talking and we heard that one guy said he had been beaten up by a group of thugs when the fair was on. We talked around this and somehow got onto what Jesus said about forgiveness and what that meant; not sure if it was because of a 'Gods Promise'. One of his friends with us said he also had a go at his mate in the past, for whatever reason, and he felt guilty. I don't think his friend could remember.

Anyway, suddenly, out of the blue, he asked for a prayer to ask for forgiveness for having a go at his mate. He asked me and surprised....I said ok. I shall never forget what he then said...he said, 'this is going to be amazing' and we went over to a bench to pray together. That was certainly a challenge, to come up to his expectations, no pressure then....The guys on the street often amaze me..... be prepared to expect the unexpected when Jesus is around.

It reminds me that God's forgiveness and love is for everyone, whoever you are, wherever you are, whatever you have done. The surprise of joy, the surprise of knowing forgiveness, expect to be surprised.

Two of my favourite 'Gods Promises' is Psalm 86:5 ...'You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you'.

And.... 'Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests before God' ... Philippians 4:6

DONATIONS

We are now accepting donations again at our Revive Coffee House in the Eastgate Shopping Centre. Revive is open Wednesdays to Saturdays. If you have a large donation that you wish to offer at other times then please contact elaine@gloscitymission.org.uk and we will arrange something. Please visit our website to find up to date information about what items we need - <u>CLICK</u> HERE

At the moment the items that we need are:

Toiletries

- Razors
- Deodorant
- Shaving gel/foam
- Sun tan lotion

Clothing

- Boxer shorts s-m-l (new only please)
- Trainers
- Hoodies
- Joggers s-m-l
- Mens T shirts s-m-l
- Baseball caps
- New water bottles

Other items

2 or 3 man tents

Special thanks this month to Cellular Technologies for their generous donation. Thank you to Impro Commercial Ltd for their donation of 10 huge boxes full of t-shirt, jumpers, coats etc. Thank you also to Superdrug in Kings Walk who have a collection box for customers to donate toiletries.

Jasmine Davis and some fellow students at Gloucestershire College fundraised for us and brought in £191 to Revive. We also had a generous donation of toiletries through Chris Aucker-Howlett.







Premier 👸 League Fantasy Football Congratulations to our Fantasy Football
League Champion, Tom Chevis and thanks
to everyone who entered. We will run it
again as a bit of fun for next season. It costs
£5 to enter with all donations going to our
work. See if you can beat Tom next season!



We have so much to be thankful for.

At Wednesday lunch a few weeks ago we were joined by the NHS Mass Vaccinations Team from the NHS. They were able to give clients vaccinations there and then. It is so great to work with other organisations such as the NHS so well and to have a really positive relationships with them.

Home Starter Packs



We have been giving Home Starter Packs out to clients who have moved out of the emergency hotels into their own places. Here is Christophe in his new home who was just so delighted and grateful to have been blessed with one of the packs.

These packs are given to clients when they are moved on from temporary accommodation into permanent accommodation and are meant as a blessing to help them to get things set up. If you are able to help with any of the following items then it would be appreciated. All items must be new to celebrate that people are moving into their new homes. Items can be dropped off at Revive please.

If you would like to support the Home Starter Pack Project we are looking for donations of;

Cutlery sets, Tin openers, Single sheets, Single duvet cover sets

Saucepan sets, Cooking spoons, Wooden spoons, Salt and pepper sets

T towels, Bowls, Plates, Side plates, Kettles, Toasters



Would you like to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select Gloucester City Mission as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. Amazon will donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

- 1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
- 2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programmes & Features
 - 3. Select Gloucester City Mission as your charity
 - 4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

As you can see we have a lot going on again now. It costs us just over £13.5k per month to run so if you are able to support us financially in any way it would be massively appreciated. Please click here to find direct links to give a donation to our work or scan the QR codes below

GLOUCESTER CITY MISSION WORKING WITH THE HOMELESS AND VULNERABLE

GCM HAS BEEN SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS IN OUR CITY SINCE 2003 PROVIDING FOOD, DRINKS, CLOTHES, TRAINING, SUPPORT, ADVICE AND PRAYER



PLEASEDONATE

Online

www.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/gloscitymission or via Paypal, Facebook, Stewardship and Instagram

To make a text donation, text gloscitymission followed by the amount you wish to donate to 70085 (ie 'GLOSCITYMISSION 5' to 70085 to donate £5).

This costs £5 plus a std rate msg, you can opt to give any whole amount up to £20.

Maybe you could sign up to give a monthly gift.

We also accept cash donations or we can accept card donations at Revive Coffee House.

Please make cheques payable to Gloucester City Mission, we also accept CAF cheques













YOU CAN BUY A WHOLE RANGE OF T-SHIRTS AND HOODIES IN DIFFERENT COLOURS AND SIZES AND ALL PROFITS GO TO OUR WORK IN OUR ONLINE SHOP WE HAVE LAUNCHED SOME NEW DESIGNS. COME AND HAVE A LOOK ESPECIALLY IF YOU LIKE FOOTBALL, RUGBY OR CRICKET.

DESIGNS ARE AVAILABLE IN A WIDE RANGE OF COLOURS AND AS T-SHIRTS OR HOODIES.

PLUS YOU GET TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS AND START
CONVERSATIONS!



WWW.GLOSCITYMISSION.ORG.UK/SHOP







Prayer List

As well as praying for GCM's clients, volunteers and staff please also hold these groups in your prayers. To add someone to the prayer list please email GCMprayer1@gmail.com

- All at GCM as we continue to respond to and meet the challenges that are being faced;
- Clients in emergency hotels and those who have found themselves back on the street;
- Our Outreach teams:
- Shop managers and workers as they return to fully opening back up
- All frontline and key workers;
- The Alpha course participants
- The family of Ruth Whitford.
- The family and friends of one of our clients, Helen A, who sadly passed away last week.



We are often contacted by churches or individuals who have come across someone rough sleeping in or near their grounds. If this happens please use the Street Link App or website.

It is really quick and easy and alerts the Council and the P3 Outreach team about the person. More often than not the rough sleeper is already known however this isn't always the case. It is quick, free and easy to and will be the quickest way for that person to be offered support.

The GCM Team

Kevin Howie - General Manager kevin@gloscitymission.org.uk Neil Parmenter- Operations Manager neil@gloscitymission.org.uk Sue Dalton - Administrator admin@gloscitymission.org.uk Paula Keeper - Project Worker (Outreach) paula@gloscitymission.org.uk Louise Mackenzie - Project Worker (Catering) louise@gloscitymission.org.uk **Elaine Mather - Project Worker (Restore and Volunteers)** elaine@gloscitymission.org.uk

Karen Williams - Revive Coffee House Supervisor karen@gloscitymission.org.uk Javne Brett - Revive Coffee House Staff **Darren Bennett - Revive Coffee House Staff**

Mike Curtis - Chaplain

Please take a few minutes to have a look at our website www.gloscitymission.org.uk

Also click and follow us on









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